

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State 25X1



33

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Action NEA Control: 14921  
 Rec'd: August 22, 1959  
 1:06 p.m.

Info FROM: Tehran  
 L TO: Secretary of State  
 INR NO: 379, August 22, 5 p.m.  
 UMSC  
 E

IRC SENT DEPARTMENT 379, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 24, BAGHDAD 19,  
 DCL KHORRAMSHAHR, BASRA UNNUMBERED.

ICA Embassy confirms report Iranian Government diverted waters Alvand  
 CIA River vicinity Qasr-I-Shirin across from Iraqi border town  
 OSD Khanaqin. Ministry Agriculture stated government also  
 ARMY diverting water another river vicinity Emam Ibrahim (not yet  
 NAVY identified by Embassy) and that Iraqis charging Iranians diverting  
 AIR more than fair share waters.

RMR Additional projects reportedly recommended construction:  
 (1) In Sumar area; and (2) On Gilan River which flows into Alvand.

Prime Minister, when visiting region mid-June cautioned officials against diverting undue amounts water and emphasized importance maintaining good relations Iraq.

Alvand River diversion also confirmed by officer Iraqi Embassy who added if plan designed harass Iraq would only be temporarily successful because waters Diyala will eventually be utilized Khanaqin area. Pointed out incongruity Iranian action diverting waters belonging neighbor simultaneous with efforts solve Helmand dispute. Said Embassy had no repercussions Iraq as yet; they inclined give no importance or significance this development, characterizing incident example recurring border problem. He felt problem could be solved by representatives Iraqi-Iranian Governments light existing agreements about amounts water entitled each. With curious statement this scheme intended bring pressure Iraqi Government settle Shatt dispute, it strange because Iranian Government has never formally stated its views re Shatt.

Embassy will obtain more information on location and extent  
 diversion

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"  
 REPRODUCTION FROM THIS  
 COPY IS PROHIBITED.

CONFIDENTIAL

-2-379, August 22, 5 p.m. from Tehran

diversion schemes August 25.

Comment: Apparently to date only Alvand waters diverted. Foreign Office spokesman intimated that action related Iranian frustrations re Shatt.

Water diversion problem has not yet reached critical state, with Iranians maintaining they need water agricultural purposes and Iraqis here apparently not yet attaching too much importance this development.

WAILES

JAK-10

CONFIDENTIAL